

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/781,480
Reply to Office Action dated November 16, 2007

PATENT
450100-04935

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification, specifically at page 16.

Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,035,243 to Galuga et al. (hereinafter, merely "Galuga").

Claims 2, 4, 6, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Galuga in view of Swinson et. al. Expanding frontiers of Humanoid Robotics: Intelligent Systems and Their Applications, IEEE, (July/August 2000) (hereinafter, merely "Swinson")

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III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"...wherein the serious level indicates how serious the external or internal situation is for the robot itself,

...wherein the name of a user who interacts with the robot is retrieved based on a face identification and speaker identification of the user and is stored to a combination ID representing at least the serious level and the external or internal situation." (emphasis added)

The Office Action (see page 5) relies on column 12, line 59-column 13, line 60 of Guluga to reject wherein the serious level indicates how serious the external or internal situation is for the robot itself, as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added). Specifically, the Office Action interpreted determining where an error correctable would be determining the serious level. Applicants submit that Applicants' claimed serious level is for the robot itself. Nothing in Guluga discloses or teaches the type of error relates to a serious level for the robot itself.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Guluga and Swinson, taken either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or teach wherein the name of a user who interacts with the robot is retrieved based on a face identification and speaker identification of the user and is stored to a combination ID representing at least the serious level and the external or internal situation, as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, claim 5 is patentable.

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IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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